After the manager told her Alice said it was terrible. She asked how it had happened. The manager lied. She said no one knew. She was afraid the tenants wouldn't be able to take it. Yet they lived such harsh lives. Alice was paranoid and lived in a state of imminent destruction. She was preoccupied with conspiracies. Frederick (not Fred) was always talking about his other bodies. I think he thought he was JFK Jr. He was always talking about how his lips moved in the airplane underwater. He wasn't killed. He was murdered. There were mummy babies under the bed and werewolves at the window. So it went. On her way out Alice apologized for not wearing stockings for Patricia's announcement. I'd noticed when she was sitting opposite me that her feet were bare in dirty sneakers. That was on her mind. The announcement was an occasion. She hadn't been dressed for it.

*

I remember my first shifts. I had a couple of training shifts with Babs and Adam. Babs was a strange, unnerving experience.

I remember one thing about Babs's training. The apple juice goes into the clear pitcher and the orange juice into the blue one. I inadvertently violated this "arrangement" about a year later, on the 4 to midnight shift. As I usually did, after the